



## NEWS RELEASE

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## Sylmar Man Sentenced for Birthday Party Killing

A 22-year-old man has been sentenced to 16 years to life in state prison for stabbing a 19-year-old man to death at a house party, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

Deputy District Attorney Kathy Ta said David Gage Silva of Sylmar was sentenced yesterday after a jury found him guilty on Dec. 8 of second-degree murder with a use of knife allegation in case PA075013.

The stabbing took place at a birthday party on Oct. 28, 2012, in the 13300 block of Sayre Street in Sylmar. The victim, Anthony Hernandez, and the defendant were both guests at the party, the prosecutor said.

According to court testimony, as the party was winding down an argument broke out between two groups of guests over the loudness of the music. The argument turned into a fight in which Hernandez was stabbed in the heart by Silva, the prosecutor added.

Witnesses testified that Silva ran away from the house when he heard the stabbing victim was dying. He was later seen attempting to discard a knife and the shirt he wore at the party, according to witness testimony.

At the sentencing, Hernandez's family provided victim impact statements before Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge David Stuart of the San Fernando Branch.

The matter was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department, Mission Detective Division.

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### About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety.